

I believe that there are already too many monopolistic media powers as it is. In radio, there seem to only be a couple of radio stations that aren't owned by ClearChannel. In TV, everywhere I look I see Time-Warner. Why should we let these companies get even bigger?

The laws put in place to limit monopolies in broadcast were put there to protect the viewers and listeners. Just because cable has added 300 channels to TV does not mean that anything other than the very core networks will get taken seriously, and if those core networks all fall under the same umbrella, it will be the same as a monopoly. Low end cable channels will be unable to compete with the financial power of a single large system, and the majority of viewers will not even know the difference.

Our protections must remain in place. In my view, they should even be strengthened. This nation has taken a turn towards allowing and encouraging monopolistic practices in the last few decades, and it is unfair to the consumer. In a capitalist society, monopolies Must Not Be Allowed in order to promote free market competition. Without a free market, where competition can set the standards, a single, large company can set whatever standards and what ever prices they like. And the media already has a serious influence on public opinion.

Thank you for your time.